



**CITY COUNCIL
RETREAT MINUTES
January 11, 2014**

**9:00 a.m.
400 SW 152nd Street, Suite 300**

Council Present: Mayor Lucy Krakowiak, Deputy Mayor Bob Edgar, Councilmembers Stephen Armstrong, Lauren Berkowitz, Gerald F. Robison, Nancy Tosta and Debi Wagner.

Staff present: Cary Bozeman, Facilitator; Craig Knutson, Interim City Manager.

Public present: Chestine Edgar, Patrick Lemoine, Robert Howell, Robbie Howell.

Opening Remarks and Discussion on Values, Leadership and Change and Roles of the City Council, Mayor & Manager

Facilitator Cary Bozeman stated his expectation that during the retreat all Councilmembers would participate in discussing: how to work best together; how to improve Council meetings and other operational issues; and what goals and priorities the Council could agree on for the next two years.

All Councilmembers and the Interim City Manager participated in a lengthy discussion about communication and the roles of the Council, Mayor, and City Manager.

The Council agreed on a set of core values, which included the following: honesty, acceptance, respect, willingness to give and receive feedback, trust, integrity, forgiveness, listening to each other, collaboration, celebration, inclusiveness, and openness.

Operational Issues Discussion

The Facilitator, Councilmembers, and Interim City Manager participated in a lengthy discussion about how to improve Council meetings and other operational issues.

The Council reached consensus on the following operational changes:

- General public comment (non-agenda items) will be for a total of 20 minutes near the beginning of each regular meeting with 2 minutes per individual or group.
- Public comment on agenda items will be taken during the Business Agenda with 3 minutes per individual or group.
- Agenda topics can be added by 3 Councilmembers (rather than a majority).
- Study sessions will be in a conference table setting.
- There will be a written statement on the agenda and an oral statement by the Mayor that questions/concerns from the public will be addressed by staff; and the City Manager Report will document that questions/concerns have been addressed.
- Councilmember committee reports will be given at the end of each regular meeting.
- Staff will report back to Council on the cost of reverting to more detailed minutes.

- There will be another retreat with the new City Manager and the Leadership Team.
- The Council will have a joint meeting with the Highline School Board.

The Council did not reach consensus on the following operational changes:

- Adding a second study session each month.
- Re-establishing Council committees.
- Conducting neighborhood town hall meetings.
- Changing the format of quarterly financial reports.

Presentation on Economic Development

There was a very brief presentation by Cary Bozeman about Bremerton's economic development success.

Setting the Priorities for 2014-15

The Council worked through lunch and had a lengthy discussion about a number of issues, including customer service, communication with citizens, and the Council's goals and priorities for the next two years.

The Council agreed that the most important priorities for the coming year are to:

1. Hire an outstanding City Manager
2. Enhance the City's financial stability in adopting the next biennial budget.

The Council also reached consensus on the following goals and priorities for the next two years:

1. Economic development & jobs.
 - Downtown redevelopment
 - NERA
 - Attract hotel & theater
 - Job retention and recruitment
 - Height limits, density downtown
2. Citizen communication & engagement
 - Social media
 - Appreciation of volunteers
 - Cultural diversity task force
3. Arts & culture
 - Community Center
 - Performing arts center
 - Parks bond issue
4. Improve image of Burien
 - Branding/marketing
 - International city
5. Promote sustainability
 - Walkability
 - Parks & trails
 - Public transit
 - Light rail to airport
 - Health & food policy
6. Building partnerships
 - Port of Seattle & Highline School District
 - Federal and state,
 - County and neighboring cities
 - Grants

7. Public safety
 - Speeding enforcement
 - Fireworks enforcement
 - Tagging, homelessness, crime.
8. Animal issues.

Concluding Remarks

Each Councilmember and the Interim City Manager stated what they had gotten out of the retreat and what they were committed to doing as a result of the retreat.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm.

/s/ Lucy Krakowiak, Mayor

/s/ Craig D. Knutson, Interim City Manager